

# **PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**February 11, 2005**

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## MINUTES

1. Called to order at 8:35 am by Marilyn Wilkinson.
2. Opportunity for Members of Public to Speak on Items Not on Today's Agenda
3. Approval of November 19, 2004 Minutes
  - Approval of November minutes.MOTION TO APPROVE NOVEMBER MINUTES – ROD GROENEWOLD, 2<sup>ND</sup> DOUG GOAD  
ALL IN FAVOR – 5-0-1
4. DEPARTMENT REPORT
  - We sent out our needs assessment surveys out to the communities of Fallbrook, Spring Valley and Lakeside and we are up to
5. ACTION ITEMS
  - Election of Officers
    - ♦ Rod Groenewold – I would like to nominate Rick Landavazo as the chair for 2005. My reasoning behind this is that we should follow the lead of the Board of Supervisors where the Vice Chair rotates into the Chair position and so forth.
    - ♦ Marilyn Wilkinson – I have no problem stepping down and letting Rick become Chair, I do think that it is an asset that I have been part of this committee and around this department for so long that I am very
    - ♦ Roger Utt – Marilyn is a very good communicator for our group and I really look at all of us being a chair for this group and I would vote for Rick as easily as I would Marilyn.
    - ♦ Doug Goad – I think that this group unlike the Board of Supervisors is not a policy making entity, but an advisory group and it is very important to a group like this that we are here so that we can get the input on the issues from everyone. I know that we all represent various communities, but I don't know if we have to be as concerned with this issue in this group.MOTION TO HAVE MARILYN WILKINSON CHAIR FOR 2005 – VOTE: YES – 4, NO – 1, OBSTAIN 1  
MOTION TO HAVE RICK LANDAVAZO VICE CHAIR FOR 2005 – VOTE: YES - 6
- 2005 Park Advisory Meeting Dates
  - ♦ Item was tabled to next month.
  - ♦ Decided to have next meeting on Friday, March 11, 2005.
- Grant Applications
  - ♦ LWCF – due May 2: Sweetwater Summit, Kelly Ditch Trail and Lamar Park, RTP: Kelly Ditch Trail and HCF: interpretive signage for the parks are both due in October.

- Doug Goad - What is the cost and what are the obstacles of getting the CEQA done? There are non-profits that I know of that would be willing to help out with funding something like this if the cost wasn't too high, etc. The Encinitas Trails Coalition has a small amount of money that they are looking to use to help enhance the trails in the area. The Escondido Creek Conservancy also has a good source of funds that they have used to do their work and I think that maybe we should try to work with these local non-profits and partner to get these CEQA requirements done.
- ◆ We also have the AmeriCorp group that come and camp out at one of our parks and in turn do restoration work at the park. We should be submitting our letter of intent for review next week and if we are successful the work would be from May 16 – July 8.
- ◆ The President has proposed cutting off funding for the LWCF grants, we have been told so far to submit things for next year, but we don't know what will happen at this time.

## 6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Amending PLDO – Eric Wong
  - ◆ We would recommend that if we were going to go with a price below 4 that we would go with the Home Price Index.
    - Doug Goad – The big influence is going to be in Area 3 because there is a big discrepancy between the home price and model park and why is there such a big difference. It would seem to me that the Model Park is the way to go.
  - ◆ It is the land values in the area that make the difference in the pricing indexes.
    - Marilyn Wilkinson – I think that we are ready to support this and give it our support, so I would like to recommend that this be an action item on the next agenda.
    - Doug Goad - We need to have some kind of trails plan/concept plan in the Julian area.
    - Roger Utt – I am still tracking the City of San Diego's policy and they are right on track with the Model Park program. I think that the number we come up with should be a rounded number, not something with dollars and cents.
  - ◆ Yes, we will be rounding the numbers
    - Marilyn Wilkinson - I think that we need to have the fee escalator clause, so that this doesn't lay stagnant for the next 10 or 15 years.
  - ◆ They tried that before and ran into a lot of opposition, so we are looking at having something in there about revisiting the ordinance every 2 years.
    - Doug Goad – Its important to mention that there is a lot of reevaluation going on in the business world and we need to look at this from the business point of view.
    - Marilyn Wilkinson – I think that we all need to make sure that we are going to our Planning Group meetings and our community and tell them how good this is and stress how important it is to have this approved.
  - ◆ Distributed PLDO amendment timeline. If all follows the proposed timing we would hope to have the new ordinance go into effect in January 2006.
    - Paul Davis – I go walking in my community and I see so many people out there now walking and using the trails, so it is very important to be able to get the money to give more of these opportunities to the communities.

- Doug Goad – Are bikeways a part of this or is there any way to include them? I know that a lot of what we have talked about is soft surface trails, but I know that there is a large group of bicyclists and I think that we should include them in some of our planning to give them safe pathways.
  - Roger Utt – It would be helpful to put in the percent index multiplier to help us see how these numbers came about.
- Wildfire Recovery – Jason Hemmens
    - ◆ The State declared the December 2004 rains a disaster, so it looks like we will be getting money for the damages caused by those rains.
    - ◆ Showed pictures of Hellhole Canyon after the fire recovery efforts.
- Open Space Ordinances – Mike McFedries
    - ◆ No changes have been made to the regulatory ordinances.
    - ◆ Within the MSCP plan there is a Biological Ordinance that replaces the Biological aspect of the Resource Protection Ordinance
    - ◆ If there is a State statute it overrides anything that the County would have, so we don't need to have anything that is already governed by the State.
    - ◆ We are hoping to amend this to just have 1 ordinance for all 3 of the MSCP areas, with just some specific criteria for habitat, wildlife, etc for the different areas.
    - ◆ All of these require us to have some type of monitoring and mitigation plan.
      - Roger Utt – Is there anything that we can do that would help give staff more power to stop illegal activity in the parks?
    - ◆ That is a hard question because our staff does not have police authority, but we are working to try to see if there is anything we can do administratively to cite and stop illegal activity, but it is something that
- Ramona Grasslands Update – Mike McFedries & Maeve Hanley
    - ◆ We applied for a RWQCB Prop 13 grant that is to improve water quality and we were awarded \$1.5 million and it was the first time that a grant included acquisition in it.
    - ◆ This enabled us to purchase the 420 acre Cagney Ranch property and 70 acre Hardy Ranch property as well as hire some biological firms to do work in these areas.
    - ◆ Grazing has had a heavy impact on this area and we are going to passively restore the area.
    - ◆ This property was presented to the Ramona Trails Sub-Committee and we are talking with them. It doesn't deviate much from the County Trails Plan.
    - ◆ There is some talk about a couple of other properties in the area that we are hoping to get.

## 7. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

- ◆ Marilyn Wilkinson – John did you say that you were on the San Dieguito River Committee, if you don't mind I would like to have you come to the next meeting and tell us about this.
- ◆ John Degenfelder – Yes, I would be happy to update everyone on what is going on with the project.

- ♦ Marilyn Wilkinson – I would really like to see something in our parks where the kids can come out and a Ranger can sit with them in the park and explain what happens to the wildlife and natural habitat during a fire etc. The only park that I know does this all the time is Stelzer because the Stelzer Family Trust pays for the kids to come
- ♦ Doug Goad – A lot of times we are having encroachment issues and a new developer has started putting up a small fence and then mulch between the fence and the pavement to try and alleviate the homeowners from encroaching on the easements. The City of Encinitas has put their trails on the website and I sent it to the Elfin group and they are now looking at the gaps in the trail system and are starting to work on getting them connected. I also went to the State of the County and it was nice to hear her say that she is supportive of the parks and trails and that the goal is to have 1,000 miles of new trails.
- ♦ Roger Utt – The County Board of Supervisors appointed me to the Mission Trails Park Advisory Committee and I attend those meetings every other month and I will start bringing you updates from those meetings. We are looking to expand and acquire more land for the park. We are looking for it to be the largest urban park in the country.
- ♦ Roger Utt – The County's Heritage Park property has been running in deficit for many years now and I think that they said something like \$400,000 per year. So the county came up with the possibility of having a master lessee that would run the park for the County. Last year the County put out an Request For Proposals for this master lessee and we received 1 from the owner of the Hacienda hotel. The proposal was to make it a wedding center with two 30 unit bed and breakfast facilities. This halted the process because the original restrictions on getting a lessee was that there would be no additional buildings added to the facility. After much discussion we just received a revised proposal that included a replica of historic style buildings.
- ♦ Marilyn Wilkinson – So the existing tenants that are there, for example the park reservations will they stay or will they be ousted? My main concern that this remains a public County park and doesn't become a private park.
- ♦ Roger Utt – I think that there will be some negotiating and talking about how to keep the balance between a public park and private use and it is definitely something that I am keeping on my radar.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 10:25 am by Marilyn Wilkinson.

### ATTENDEES:

Marilyn Wilkinson, District 2

John Degenfelder, District 2

Doug Goad, District 3

Paul Davis, District 3

Roger Utt, District 4

Rod Groenewold, District 5

Jason Hemmens, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Eric Wong, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Maeve Hanley, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Mike McFedries, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation